

WELL KNOWN MERCHANTS Fire Commission Charges a Fee.

(From Wednesday's Daily.)
The court of fire commissioners completed their labors yesterday morning, and will file their awards as soon as the remainder of the certificates have been signed. As a final climax to their labors the commission devised a way by which they will pay back the \$4000 borrowed from the Honolulu merchants a few months ago to carry the work of the fire court to the end. This will be done by a charge of a small fee to each claimant when he receives the certificate of award.

Following the completion of their labors yesterday morning the fire commissioners called upon Governor Cooper and so reported, receiving the thanks of the acting executive. Notices of the awards in a good many cases are already in the hands of Auditor Austin, and as soon as they are announced by the fire courts the certificates will be given out. The awards will be announced within a few weeks, and only a small number will be given out each day, so that neither auditor nor commission will be overworked. The awards have now been signed excepting five books by Commissioner F. J. Tosta. J. G. Pratt, who is now in Washington, has not signed, but as it requires only a majority of the signatures of the commissioners to make the award legal and binding, there will be no delay because of his absence. The commission examined over 6700 claims, and the total of the awards will reach into the millions. The appropriation made by the legislature was but \$1,500,000, but the awards of the court will be more than that sum it is thought, as Commissioner Pratt has asked for an appropriation from Congress of \$2,000,000. This was the aggregate of the claims filed, but the court reduced this amount considerably, and it would not be a great surprise if the final figures showed that the total awards were within the estimate of the legislature, or at least not in excess of \$2,000,000. The certificates of award will now be placed in the hands of the auditor, who in turn will make out the warrants upon the treasurer. These warrants will be payable in one, two and three years respectively, so that as a matter of fact the claims are not payable for one year yet.

Undoubtedly, however, the warrants can be discounted at the local banks, as has been done in other cases.

Following the signing of the records of judgments the commission went into executive session, when the following resolution was introduced by Commissioner Kopoloff, by which it is hoped to secure a sufficient return for the payment of the expenses of the commission in excess of the appropriation: That the chairman be and is hereby empowered to oversee the clerk in completing the records and other clerical work of the commission; to make up a financial statement of the receipts and disbursements of the commission; to make up a general report of the work of the commission to the governor; to issue certificates of awards to claimants and to collect a fee for each certificate of award based upon the following schedule:

Awards of \$50 and under \$0.25
Awards of \$50 and under 50
Awards of \$50 and under 1.00
Awards of \$50 and over 4.00

And from the proceeds of the above and any other funds of the commission to liquidate all outstanding obligations of the commission, including the advances to the commission by the merchants of Honolulu to the amount of \$4000, and interest thereon at the rate of 8 per cent per annum, together with such other expenses incurred and necessary to be incurred incident to the closing up of the work of this commission.

The resolution was seconded by Commissioner Lovelock and passed, all voting in favor of it excepting Commissioner Tosta, who offered the following amendment:

Awards of \$50 and under \$0.25
For every \$50 or fraction thereof from \$50 to \$500 50
Awards of \$500 to \$2500 60
For every \$100 or fraction thereof from \$500 to \$2500 40
For every \$100 or fraction thereof from \$2500 and upwards 75

There being no second the original motion was adopted. An estimate of the returns under the fee rule has been made, and the commissioners expect to be able to pay from it all the expenses of the court in excess of the appropriation, including the \$4000 borrowed from Honolulu merchants.

ROYAL RECORDS OF THE BABYLONIANS

NEW YORK, May 26.—A cable to the World from Paris says: Professor Morgan, the archaeologist, has succeeded in deciphering the records of King Kammouradi of Babylon, a contemporary of Abraham. Law books written on clay were discovered by a French exploration party digging up the ancient city of Suza, and these form the principal attraction of the archaeological exhibition at the Grand Palais, which opened May 12th. Parts of the code deciphered by the professor deal with criminal, civil and commercial law. Here are extracts from the fundamental laws of the ancient Babylonian kingdom:

"The man who robs a house after shall be thrown into fire."
"The burglar discovered in the act has forfeited his life if he carries weapons on his body. He shall be buried on the spot where he entered the house."
"He who destroys a fruit tree shall be fined ten pieces of silver."
"He who drives another man's ox to death shall give ox for ox."
"He who injures an animal shall be fined half the worth of the animal."
"A woman inheriting a house, field or orchard from her husband must not be molested in her possessions, which she shall be free to leave to her favorite son. Her husband's children shall not be entitled to fight her testament."
"He who enters into a contract without witnesses or without any instrument in writing shall not be allowed to carry his case before the courts."

WOMAN'S BOARD MEETS IN ANNUAL SESSION Varied Reports of Year's Work Were Read. Loving Tokens for "Mother" Castle and Mrs. Hiram Bingham.

(From Wednesday's Daily.)
THE Woman's Board of Missions sat in annual session in Central Union Church yesterday morning and afternoon, where the work of the splendid organization was told in reports, addresses and statistics, and when the benediction was said in the afternoon the members departed from the church edifice impressed with the grandeur of the results of the early missionary zeal which left the board such a field of action. The morning was devoted to the reading of numerous reports, and at noon there was an intermission for an hour and a half, during which time a delicious luncheon was served in the lecture room, at which were present nearly three hundred persons. In the afternoon there was an election of officers for the ensuing year, an address by the president, and a detailed statement of the work proposed for the coming year. A number of missionaries from the steamship Coptic who are en route to Japan and China were present and gave interesting accounts of the countries in which they had taken up their work.

A beautiful feature of the afternoon session was the gentle touch of sisterly love exhibited by the members to Mrs. Hiram Bingham, who was unable to be present, and to Mother Castle, who spoke a few words of encouragement to the board. The tokens of remembrance were in the form of clusters of lilies, one of which was given to Rev. Hiram Bingham to convey to his wife. At each presentation the entire audience rose to its feet and stood silently during the affecting ceremony.

The platform was prettily decorated with flowers, lilies being in abundance, with potted ferns in sharp contrast. Upon the platform were Mrs. Hyde, who presided; Mrs. Coan, Mrs. S. E. Bishop and Miss Sheeley.

For the coming year the following officers, whose nominations were duly brought before the meeting and voted upon favorably, will serve:
President—Mrs. C. M. Hyde.
Vice Presidents—Mrs. Hiram Bingham, Miss M. A. Chamberlain, Mrs. E. E. Bishop, Mrs. W. M. Kincaid, Mrs. E. E. Bishop, Mrs. J. A. Cruzan, Hilo, Hawaii; Mrs. W. H. Rice, Lihue, Kauai; Mrs. R. F. Engle, Paia, Maui; President Missionary Gleasons—Mrs. Giles Gere.

President Pauahi Band—Miss Ida M. Pope.
President Lima Kokua—Miss Neibel.
Recording Secretary—Miss Margaret L. Sheeley.

Home Corresponding Secretary—Mrs. Dr. N. L. Moore.
Foreign Corresponding Secretary—Mrs. C. H. Dickey.

Treasurer—Mrs. B. F. Dillingham.
Auditor—Mr. W. W. Hall.
Director—Mrs. O. H. Gulick.

Superintendent of Work Among Hawaiians—Miss Laura Green.
Superintendent of Work Among Chinese—Mrs. F. W. Damon.

Superintendent of Work Among Portuguese—Mrs. A. V. Soares.
Superintendent of Work Among Japanese—Mrs. O. H. Gulick.

Trustees of Permanent Fund—Mrs. S. M. Damon, Mrs. B. F. Dillingham, Mrs. J. B. Atherton.

With the exception of one or two changes, the officers and heads of departments are about as they were last year.

For the work of the board for the coming year, especially with regard to the literary portion of the monthly meetings, excellent programs have been prepared. Mrs. Theodore Richards, chairman of the committee on work for the next year, reported as follows yesterday afternoon:

WORK FOR NEXT YEAR.
Your committee on work desire to present the following report for the coming year. We have endeavored in mapping out the program for this year to add to the interest and value of our meeting by bringing more of the members into the working force.

The two additions to the programs of this year are first a committee of one, appointed for each meeting, to provide items of interest in Mission Fields, and second, a table or bureau of exchange of Missionary literature.

We are hoping for more enthusiasm in this latter plan. Many of us subscribe for missionary magazines, who would be more than willing to pass them on, to be means of inspiration to those who do not see these magazines, and also to learn of branches of work which are not mentioned in our own particular papers. We ask all those who have such literature to contribute to loan it or pass it on to bring it to the meetings month by month. Please have your name plainly written in ink on all literature you wish to have returned. Mrs. W. W. Bristol of the Kanehahua Manual School has kindly consented to take charge of the exchange table.

The special collections taken up last year for the Armenian orphans and the Pundita Ramabai Association were so successful that we consider it wise to ask the ladies to repeat the offerings this coming year. They will be taken up as last year for the same organizations in October and for the Ramabai Association in January.

There will be no meetings held in July and August.

The following programs have been arranged for the monthly meetings during the coming year, subject to any changes that may be necessary.

September—Some Phases of Mission Work in Turkey. Mrs. J. H. Richards; Items, Miss Belle Johnson; Report of Chinese Work; Report of Portuguese Work.

October—Forward Movement in Japan. Miss Eliza Talbot; Items, Mrs. Jonathan Shaw; Report of Hawaiian Work; Report of Japanese Work; Report of Missionary Gleasons; Special collection for Armenia.

November—Medical Work in the Orient by Oriental Women. Miss Flora Albright; Items, Mrs. W. E. Brown; Report of Chinese Work; Report of Portuguese Work; Report of Lima Kokua.

December—Present Conditions and

Needs of the Hawaiian Work. Mrs. O. P. Emerson; Items, Mrs. Marjorie; Report of Hawaiian Work; Report of Japanese Work; Report of Pauahi Band.

January—Qualifications for Missionary Work as Drawn from the Scriptures. Mrs. John Leachman; Items, Mrs. S. A. Gilman; Report of Chinese Work; Report of Portuguese Work; Report of Missionary Gleasons; special collection for Pundita Ramabai Association.

February—The History of the Shant Mission. Mrs. W. A. Bowen; Items, Miss Maria Forbes; Report of Hawaiian Work; Report of Japanese Work; Report of Lima Kokua.

March—Biographical Sketch. Mother Bissell of India, Miss M. I. Ziegler; Report of Chinese Work; Report of Portuguese Work; Report of Pauahi Band; Items, Miss C. H. Hyde.

April—Organized Missionary Endeavor among Young People. Mrs. C. A. McDonald; Items, Mrs. F. C. Atherton; Report of Hawaiian Work; Report of Japanese Work.

May—Book Review. Mrs. H. N. Castle; Items, Mrs. W. L. Whitney; Praise and Thank Offering.

June—Annual meeting.
THE FURTHER PROCEEDINGS.

It was decided to renew the appropriations of last year according to the recommendations of the treasurer.

Among the ladies who spoke during the afternoon were Mrs. McCully-Higgins, Mrs. Charles Bartlett Dyke, Mother Castle, Mrs. C. M. Hyde, Mrs. Evans, a missionary passenger on the Coptic for Japan. Rev. Hiram Bingham gave an encouraging message to the board from Mrs. Bingham. Mrs. Dyke said that in the work which General Armstrong had done for the negroes of the South Hawaii had done right by the early missionary spirit in sending back persons to do good in the country whence came the first missionaries for the Islands. Mrs. Hyde's address was on "The Law of Compensation," and the paper was presented in an interesting manner, evoking much applause.

MORNING SESSION.
The exercises yesterday morning at 10 o'clock began with the singing of "Rock of Ages," following which a brief address was made by Miss Martha Chamberlain, the vice president. She spoke of the stir caused by the capture of Miss Stone by brigands, and the lesson the incident gave to all religious people. She recalled also the terrible disaster in Martinique, commenting upon the lesson the disaster contained for those who dwell in Hawaii, and reminded all to lean upon the Lord.

Reports were read by the home secretary, as well as by Mrs. A. V. Soares, superintendent of work among the Portuguese; Mrs. Gulick, superintendent of work among Japanese; Mrs. Frank Damon, superintendent of work among Chinese; Miss Laura Green, superintendent of work among Hawaiians; Mrs. Gulick called attention to the custom among Japanese men on arriving here to go to plantations for work, leaving their wives here. A home for these women had been established on a small scale. There was need, however, for a home on a large scale. She mentioned the activity among the Buddhists, saying that the building of their temples was preventing missionary work among the Japanese. Miss Green emphasized the need of a kitchen where Hawaiian girls could be taught to cook. She believed that much moral good would come from this establishment.

The report of the recording secretary mentioned that for thirty years the board had not missed holding twelve meetings annually, but a departure was made this year by omitting the holding of meetings in the summer time, owing to the heat.

The report of Mrs. B. F. Dillingham, the treasurer, read by Mrs. Coan, was as follows: Balance on hand June 4, 1901, \$282.25; amount raised this year, \$224.35; expenditures, \$287.50; balance, \$44.85.

Following the collection the meeting adjourned for lunch. The lunch was served in the lecture room where twenty tables had been prepared for the members of the board and the church members invited to be present. The tables were prettily decorated with flowers, and a number of ladies assisted the guests by waiting upon the tables. There was salad, cold meats, bread and butter, cake and coffee, all everything was home made or home cooked, and the tables were thoroughly enjoyed. The lunch was in general charge of Mrs. Andrew Fuller. She was assisted by Mrs. Harry Lewis, Mrs. E. W. Peterson, Mrs. J. A. McCandless, Mrs. W. L. Whitney, Mrs. H. H. Williams, Mrs. Widdifield, Miss Margaret Roper.

The Peace Conference.
LONDON, May 27.—The British Cabinet was in session for two hours today discussing the communications received from Pretoria since the meeting of the ministers on Friday last. It is understood that the inner committee of the Cabinet will telegraph the result of the deliberations to Pretoria this afternoon. The Boer delegates at the Transvaal capital will then probably return to Vereeniging and report to the burghers, who are still assembled there.

HOW TO AVOID TROUBLE.
Now is the time to provide yourself and family with a bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. It is almost certain to be needed before the summer is over, and if procured now may save a trip to town in the night or in your busiest season. It is everywhere admitted to be the most successful medicine in use for bowel complaints, both for children and adults. No family can afford to be without it. For sale by all dealers and druggists. Benson, Smith & Co. Ltd., agents for Hawaii.

IS AGAINST THE BANK Comptroller Calls For a New Election.

(From Wednesday's Daily.)
(Special to The Advertiser.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 26.—There has been startling development in the affairs of the First National Bank of Hawaii at Honolulu. It has leaked out here that a new election for directors of the institution has been ordered by the office of the Comptroller of the Currency.

According to the information available, under date of May 12 President Brown of the bank was directed to immediately call a meeting of the stockholders for the purpose of electing directors. It is known that the office of the Solicitor for the Treasury has had under consideration several statements concerning the last annual meeting of the bank, and that a decision was sent to the Comptroller to the general effect that the meeting of January 14 was not properly held.

The instructions of Deputy and Acting Comptroller W. B. Hildley were mandatory upon the officers of the bank to proceed without delay to call the meeting of stockholders, as under rulings of the courts of Hawaii the ground was cut from under the feet of the president of the bank in the matter of his rulings as to the majority of the stock.

It is understood further that Bank Examiner Knight of San Francisco has been directed to visit Honolulu and see that the instructions of the Comptroller of the Currency are carried out. Representatives of the Seligman of New York have been in close consultation with the Comptroller recently and it is understood strong influence has been brought to bear.

President Cecil Brown was asked by a reporter for The Advertiser yesterday if he had received any information from the office of the Comptroller of the Currency, in line with the above. He said emphatically that he had not had any instructions, that he "didn't know anything about it."

Colonel G. W. Macfarlane, who has had to do with the affairs of the bank in the past, has represented the interests of the Anglo-California Bank of San Francisco, the parent body, and presented the proxies at the meeting of January 14, which were ruled out of order by the president, refused to discuss the matter.

The belief of people here is that there must have been exerted at Washington some strong influence to bring about such action on the part of the Comptroller.

Hawaiian Manifests.
WASHINGTON, May 26.—Senator Foster of Washington has received vigorous objections from Puget Sound shippers against what they think is an arbitrary Treasury ruling requiring manifests of goods shipped to Alaska or Hawaii, as though they were foreign ports. The shippers think this is an invasion of private business, and ask Foster to secure a modification or cancellation of the order. As a matter of fact, the Treasury is not responsible for the new condition which is created by a law recently passed and approved by the President requiring vessels carrying cargoes to non-contiguous territory of the United States, to furnish manifests. This is for the purpose of gathering statistics of such commerce. The bill was drawn up by O. P. Austin, chief of the bureau of statistics, and was introduced by Senator Frye and Representative Kahn. So long as the matter was optional with shippers they refused to furnish the customs officials with information. Now they must do it. Chief Austin said there was no intention to pry into private business and that such information would be kept inviolate. Under the new law it will be possible to ascertain the extent of the commerce between San Francisco and Hawaii and Alaska—something largely guessed at heretofore.

Abused the White Flag.
MANILA, May 27.—While Second Lieutenant Robert C. Humber, of the Tenth Infantry, and Sergeant Warkling, of the same regiment, were walking about six miles from Camp Vickers in Mindanao, they perceived a single Moro carrying a flag of truce. When the native had approached close to the Americans he suddenly drew his sword and slashed Sergeant Warkling, cutting his arm completely off. Lieutenant Humber attempted to shoot the Moro but his revolver missed fire and the native escaped in the tall grass. General Davis, commander of the American forces in Mindanao, has reiterated his orders that no American soldiers are to leave camp unless in a party of at least eight men, who must be armed and prepared for any emergency.

Coronation Arrangements.
NEW YORK, May 27.—Coronation scaffolding now fills every thoroughfare on the route of the royal progress in June, says the London correspondent of the Tribune. The Abbey is hardly visible from Whitehall on account of the carpentry barricades. Gradually the dates for the state events of the coronation have been assigned and the Marchioness of Landowne and others are now arranging dinners and receptions for the remaining intervals. The Duke of Norfolk is doing the work of management but the king is consulted at every turn. He decides everything quickly and does not change his mind.

Jared Smith, special agent in charge of the Hawaiian Agricultural Station, has been notified that lavender and thyme seeds recently sent for by him, are on the way. W. S. Steele of the Department in Washington, is of the opinion that the seeds will do well in Hawaii, but thinks that the labor question will be a serious one.

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Consisting of CUTICURA SOAP, to cleanse the skin of cruds and scales and soften the thickened cuticle, CUTICURA Ointment, to instantly allay itching, inflammation, and irritation, and soothe and heal, and CUTICURA Resolvent, to cool and cleanse the blood. A SINGLE SET is often sufficient to cure the most torturing, disfiguring, and humiliating skin, scalp, and blood humors, with loss of hair, when all else fails. Sold throughout the world. Aust. Depot: R. TOWN & CO., Sydney, N. S. W. So. Africa Depot: LEWIS & LLOYD, Cape Town. "All about the Skin, Scalp, and Hair," free. PORTER, DRUG AND CHEM. CO., Sole Props., Boston, U.S.A.

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